

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 08720 112239Z
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W
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R 111327Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4104

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 8720

3.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ERRD, IS
SUBJECT: ISRAEL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, JAN-JUNE 1978

REF: TEL AVIV 7295

1. THE FOLLOWING ARE CENTRAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS PRELIMINARY
TOTALS FOR JANUARY-JUNE EXPORTS (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS):

	JAN-JUNE 1977	JAN-JUNE 1978	PERCENT CHANGE JAN-JUNE 78 FROM JAN-JUNE 77
595-)	91,427.7	1,835.9	PLUS 28.6
-&48:7)574-)	251.7	304.0	PLUS 20.8
CITRUS	145.3	153.2	PLUS 5.4
95#34 -&4.	106.4	150.8	PLUS 41.7
8,\$7 548-) & OTHER	1,176.0	1,531.9	PLUS 30.3
*99\$, BEVERAGE, TOBACCO	82.2	999.2	PLUS 20.7
53/58)3, CLOTHING & LEATHER	104.6	115.2	PLUS 10.1
299\$, PAPER, PRINTING			
MISCELLANEOUS	49.2	&62.0	PLUS 26.0
.8,3 , QUARRIES,			
,9,-METALIC MINEALS	39.6	47.3	PLUS 19.4
:#3.8:-) , RUBBER & PLASTICS	159.9	201.1	PLUS 25.8
.35-), MACHINERY &			
ELECTRONICS	227.7	342.0	PLUS 50.2

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 08720 112239Z

09)8 #3\$ \$8-.9,\$ (NET)	490.4	641.6	PLUS 30.8
95#34 3/0945	22.4	23.5	PLUS 4.9
8,\$7 548-) 3/0945			
3/-). DIAMONDS	685.6	890.3	PLUS 29.9

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH EXPORTS IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF
1978 WERE SOME 28 PERCENT ABOVE THE EQUIVALENT PERIOD IN 1977,

JUN 1978 EXPORTS OF \$244 MILLION WERE JUST
7 PERCENT ABOVE JUNE OF LAST YEAR. THE MAIN REASON FOR
THE LOW RISE IN EXPORTS WAS A 6 PERCENT DECLINE IN DIAMONDS
WHEN COMPARED TO JUNE 1977. HOWEVER, EXPORTS EXPANDED AT
A LOWER RATE THAN EARLIER THIS YEAR. FOR EXAMPLE, NONDIAMOND
INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS WERE UP ONLY 15 PERCENT IN JUNE OVER A YEAR
AGO, WHILE THE SIX MONTH COMPARISON SHOWS A RISE OF SOME 30 PERCENT.
NEVERTHELESS, EXPORTS IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF \$1.84 MILLION ARE
MORE THAN HALF THE GOI NATIONAL BUDGET PROJECTION OF \$3.5 BILLION
FOR THE YEAR AND TRADITIONALLY EXPORTS IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE YEAR
ARE MUCH HIGHER THAN IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS. WE WILL
HAVE TO WAIT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TO JUDGE WHETHER THE SLOWER
GROWTH IN JUNE WAS DUE TO SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR
REFLECTS A MORE BASIC CHANGE IN THE ECONOMY.
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